

8th-Grade Girls' Trip to Hershey Park!



Big Sister Program

This Tuesday, the Ora girls celebrated the culmination of another year of the Big Sister Program together with participating schools, Derech Hatorah and Hillel School. The students at Hillel received parting gifts of personalized tumblers along with super fun sized pens, while the students at Derech Hatorah enjoyed decorating picture frames in which they put a beautiful picture of themselves with the Ora girls. The text on the picture says "HAVE A GREAT SUMMER! LOVE, YOUR ORA BIG SISTERS". It has been beautiful year of connection!




Middos Menschen

...Mussi Hein, 4th grade - Mussi is always so helpful to her classmates and the teacher. She runs with a smile, enthusiasm and zerizus to help others! - Mrs. Mammon

...Mendel Vogel, 2nd grade - Mendel offered to hold a classmates books while his friend took a drink at the water fountain. Helpful & kind! - Mrs. Davidowitz

Benching Superstars!

Sara L. Abrahamson	Adina Goldstein	Batsheva Max
Dovid Brea	Batsheva Hein	Malka Shulman
Shneur Caro	Ariel Kuyunov	

Mazel Tov to...

...Bella Angelone, DHR 4th grader, for presenting the Jonathon B. Angelone Scholarship Awards at Brighton High School today... in front of 1,500 people.

...Mrs. London's 4th grade class for earning a siyum! They learned Parshas Miketz.



Thank You to...

...Rabbi David Levin for his \$50 donation!
 ...Mrs. Akkerman & Mrs. Max for chaperoning the 8th grade girls' trip to Hershey, PA.
 ...Mrs. Elich, Mrs. Schon and Mrs. Solomon for driving for the 2nd grade field trip to the Rundel Central Library.
 ...Ms. Nau's 3rd graders who stop on their way in from recess to stock the office with printer paper from the storeroom. Very kind! - Ms. Kat
 ...3rd Grader Mendel Hein for helping Ms. Kat in the office on Wednesday!

From the Principal Mrs. Lea Goldstein

In this week's parsha, there are so many lessons that we can learn. Yet, one concept stands out for a variety of reasons, especially because of the tragic results for klal Yisrael.

As our people were traveling through the desert, they ate the delicious heavenly bread food, the 'Mann' (Yoma 75a). It could be eaten in a variety of ways – and they did not have to work to search for it, cultivate or harvest it. The Mann was filling, nourishing, "perfect" food. However, as time went on, they grew bored with the daily miracle and started to crave meat and other "real" foods. They said: "since we left Egypt we have tasted no cucumber, melon, leek, onion or garlic (Bamidbar 11:5); only 'Mann.'"

The Jews showed a shocking lack of gratitude to Hashem for the benevolence and miracles that He had performed and was continuing to do for them on a daily basis. As a result, the Medrash describes that Hashem rained down fire and consumed many of the major complainers. Included among the casualties were members of the Sanhedrin. As judges and leaders, like responsible parents, they were guilty for not stepping in to stop the inappropriate complaints. Moshe quickly prayed for the fire to stop, Hashem accepted his tefillos and gave klal Yisrael another chance.

However, they all continued complaining. Finally, Moshe told Hashem that he could not handle the leadership on his own and requested a new Sanhedrin, composed of 70 sages, to help him lead the people. After the new Sanhedrin was appointed, Hashem delivered a huge abundance of meat by sending swarms of Slav (quails) (Bamidbar 11:31-32). They ate so much of the meat that many of the wicked people died after eating it.

Why did Hashem send the fire and the meat? Clearly, it was to teach them a lesson to not complain for no reason. Hashem is patient and full of mercy – and He wants us to show gratitude. The behavior and consequences that the Torah describes provides us a clear view into a major human fault and weakness: complaining. It is a natural response, when something doesn't go our way, to complain. As humans, we always want more. We want bigger, better. And, we expect to get what we want.

Children certainly don't have to be taught how to kvetch and whine. They do it instinctively. We see it and hear it every single day. If something is not how a child expects it to be, their natural first reaction is to complain.

Yet, for our children and ourselves, we must realize the dangerous enemy that is ingratitude. In life, the people who complain the most tend to have the fewest friends, since others can't stand to be around them. They suck the joy out of life. The cup is always half empty.

Lack of appreciation of all that is good causes jealousy and eats away at happiness. When we feel like complaining, we need to focus on all of our blessings and try to see the good. We need to train our children to notice and appreciate the many kindnesses that are done for them. We must impart to them the idea of looking beyond their own immediate, selfish needs and thinking about whether a complaint is useful, appropriate and justified. If we take responsibility for our problems and realize our own ingratitude and the damage that it can do to our character, our world will be a much happier place!

Calendar

- **Mon., June 4** - NYS Science Test for 4th and 8th grade
- **Tues., June 5 - Thurs. June 7** - 8th Grade Boys' Trip to Toronto
- **Tues., June 12** - Teacher Appreciation Picnic, 11:45 - 12:30pm
- **Sun., June 17** - 5/6 Girls Bas Mitzvah event
- **Tues., June 19** - Kindergarten Siddur Presentation & 1st grade Chumash Celebration (beginning at 2pm) and 8th grade graduation (beginning at 7:30pm).
- **Wed., June 20** - Last day of school - 11:30 am dismissal